



United Nations

— HABITAT III —
NETWORKING EVENT REPORT

Submitted by Lead Organization	
Name of lead organization	Huairou Commission
City and country where lead organization is based	Brooklyn, New York, United States
Title of the event	Grassroots women call for ecological and resilient cities: Integrating the localization of the New Urban Agenda and the Sendai Framework for DRR
Date of Networking Event	10/19/2016
Networking Event room number	Room MR7
Name of partner organizations with city and country where these organizations are based	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNISDR Las Americas Office – Panama City, Panama • Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) – Stockholm, Sweden • Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres Naturales en América Central (CEPRENAC) – Guatemala City, Guatemala • Municipality of Rimac – Rimac, Lima, Peru • GROOTS Peru – Lima, Peru • Murang'a Government County Ministry of Land, Housing & Physical Planning - Murang'a, Kenya • GROOTS Kenya – Nairobi, Kenya • Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) – Manila, Philippines
Number of participants	80
Percentage of women participants	70%
Background information on Networking Event (themes, issues, context).	<p>The New Urban Agenda commits to achieve “Environmentally Sustainable and Resilient Urban Development” while fostering sustainable economic development and all persons’ well-being and quality of life, through environmentally sound urban and territorial planning, disaster risk reduction management, infrastructure, and basic services. This will be possible with a holistic vision that takes into account the social, spatial, economic and ecological aspects of building resilience to climate and disaster threats. For grassroots women living in areas vulnerable to climate change and disasters this is of utmost importance, since communities living in poverty bear an unproportioned weight of the risks and women are more affected by these risks, given their unequal access to assets and knowledge that are key for mitigating them and building resilience. The Networking Event presented the continuous efforts of grassroots women’s groups and civil society organizations in partnership with government and institutional actors to effectively lead the localization of global policy frameworks, such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction; showcasing a clear example of how to localize global policy processes that is gender-responsive, inclusive and participatory, where local communities are not the object of development programs and projects but the main agents resilience building from the local to the global level.</p>



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Concise summary of the event proceedings, including key points discussed.

The side event featured a multi-stakeholder panel of representatives from grassroots organizations and networks, local and regional governmental bodies, UN and development agencies. It was facilitated by Ms. Martinez-Bäckström, SIDA, as a talk-show where each of the panelists were presented with questions about their work, expertise and contributions to localize different global policies with a gender and grassroots women's empowerment focus, such as the SFDRR, and how this experience could be transferred to the localization of the NUA. Key points:

- Realizing a gender responsive implementation of the SFDRR (and the NUA) requires specific actions that promote women's leadership and target their priorities on the ground, instead on focusing uniquely on a transversal approach to gender sensitivity. This calls for investment, planning and specialized programs.
- DRR requires an integrated strategy/gender inclusive approach and must be incorporated in public policy instruments
- Mutually beneficial partnerships between grassroots organizations, civil society, governments and development agencies are a key element to catalyze resources, expertise and political power in the implementation of global frameworks at the national and local level.
- Implementation of global frameworks at the local level in a way that promotes local actors empowerment (including women) needs decentralization policies with budgets attached to them.
- Democratization of local roles is key to promote women's participation in implementation development policies in a way that responds to the communities' needs and priorities.
- Women's security of tenure is a key issue that must be prioritized in the implementation of global development frameworks that call on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls as basis of their actions. In Kenya, grassroots women's organizations have been partnering with local and national governments to map public land as a strategy to localize land policies.
- Grassroots women's and communities leadership in monitoring the national and local commitments to the implementation of the global development frameworks is a key element of a successful localization that empowers local actors and generates participatory governance processes. For example, GROOTS Kenya has been monitoring the government's commitments to gender equality to produce a clear view of gender gaps from the bottom-up.
- Need for mechanisms that channel flexible funds to grassroots and local organizations to foster their leadership and expertise in generating and transferring practices that promote resilience to climate change, disaster risks and ecological threats
- Grassroots women's have been developing practices, mechanisms and tools to localize global frameworks – such as the community risk mapping and the community resilience fund to localize the SFDRR and SDGs. Grassroots women should not be seen as targets of vulnerable groups or beneficiaries, but equal partners in the policy making and implementation process. As equal partners, resources and access to decision making spaces should be granted
- CSO have created tools to monitor development policy at the national, local and regional level. For instance, ANGOC has created tools to monitor food security and land rights with special focus on women's rights to land and resources.
- Strengthening grassroots women's capacities and organizations are at the center of a sustainable, resilient development
- Drastic institutional reforms/changes are required to 'leave no one behind'



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<p>Recommendations emerged from discussions at the Networking Event .</p>	<p>1. Grassroots women should not be seen as targets of vulnerable groups or beneficiaries, but equal partners in the policy making and implementation process. As equal partners, resources and access to decision making spaces should be granted 2. Need for mechanisms that channel flexible funds to grassroots and local organizations to foster their leadership and expertise in generating and transferring practices that promote resilience to climate change, disaster risks and ecological threats. 3. Grassroots women’s and communities leadership in monitoring the national and local commitments to the implementation of the global development frameworks is a key element of a successful localization that empowers local actors and generates participatory governance processes</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 1st speaker</p>	<p>Ms. Nayoka Martinez-Bäckström, Program Manager/Specialist – Environment & Urban. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 2nd speaker</p>	<p>Mr. Ricardo Mena – Head of Regional Office, UNISDR Las Americas</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 3rd speaker</p>	<p>Mr. Roy Barboza Sequeira - Executive Secretary of CEPREDENAC Ms. Mayra Valle, International Cooperation Manager, CEPREDENAC</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 4th speaker</p>	<p>Mr. Enrique Peramás Diaz, Mayor of Rimac (Peru)</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 5th speaker</p>	<p>Ms. Relinda Sosa – Sub-regional Delegate of Community Practitioners Platform in South. America/Coordinator, Groots Peru</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 6th speaker</p>	<p>Ms. Sarah Masaki (Hon.) - Murang'a Government County Ministry of Land, Housing & Physical Planning (Kenya)</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 7th speaker</p>	<p>Ms. Fridah Githuku – Act. Executive Director, GROOTS Kenya</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 7th speaker</p>	<p>Mr. Nathaniel Don Marquez – Executive Director, Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC)</p>